

outlined above in connection with the State Department of Public Health, would total about \$50,000 annually.

The remainder of the funds that are allocated are to be used for strengthening of existing whole-time health departments in the way of adding additional sanitary inspectors and public-health nurses; organizing an additional four or five whole-time health departments in those counties which do not have such an organization, but have sufficient population to justify same. This would care for the major portion of the population of the State in some twenty-odd counties, leaving thirty-eight rural counties with small populations (from 250) to be divided into districts according to geographical lines. Each of these districts would have a whole-time health officer, sanitary inspectors, and public-health nurses living in the various community centers, who will act as representatives of the district health officer. There would also be a traveling unit, consisting of some of our present and additional personnel, to take care of emergencies that might arise.

This program probably could not be carried out during the first few years, but should be the ultimate goal, so that the whole State may have adequate public health service.

In addition to the foregoing, it is proposed that a school of public health be established on the Coast, to which the health officers of the western states will have the privilege of sending personnel to receive education in their particular field. This will be financed by other funds which will be expended in each state by the health officer for scholarships and maintenance expense of the candidates.

Very truly yours,

W. M. DICKIE, M. D.,
Director of Public Health.

Concerning anesthesia administration in California.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
LEGAL DEPARTMENT

San Francisco,
January 14, 1936.

James P. Dobyns, Managing Editor,
Hospital Management,
612 North Michigan Avenue,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Sir:—I have your communication of the 3rd instant in which you ask certain questions concerning anesthesia administration in California.

In reply please be advised that this office has heretofore interpreted the Medical Practice Act of this State to include anesthesia administration as part of the practice of medicine, and as such to be carried on only by medically licensed practitioners.

We have also expressed the view that it is sufficient that a doctor of medicine be in charge of the administration of anesthetics though the administration of anesthetics be by an assistant, provided the responsibility for the giving of the anesthetics is that of the licensed person, that the person actually administering the anesthetic do so as the assistant or "extra hands" of the licensed person, and that the assistant follow instructions of the licensed person and not exercise independent judgment in the diagnosis, treatment or condition of the patient. We have also expressed the view that a lay anesthesiologist may not charge the patient directly for the giving of the anesthetic, as well as that such charge could not be made by a hospital. A charge for the giving of an anesthetic would, in most instances, result in the corporate practice of medicine. In other words, we have stated that the giving of an anesthetic as well as the right to charge for the same is personal to the licensed practitioner.

Opinions of this office heretofore rendered indicate that there is no restriction upon who may assist in the administration of anesthetics as long as the administration is by or under the direction of a licensed practitioner.

Very truly yours,

U. S. WEBB, *Attorney-General.*
By LIONEL BROWNE, *Deputy.*

Concerning "California and Western Medicine" comments on federal survey of chronic diseases.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

UNITED STATES PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

January 23, 1936.

To the Editor:—I want to take this opportunity of thanking you for the wonderful support CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE has given to the U. S. Public Health Service survey of chronic diseases and physical impairments. I assure you that we realize the value of this means of advising the medical profession of the intent and purposes of the survey.

Mr. Sharp, regional publicity director, has advised me that both Washington, D. C., and Detroit offices of the survey are anxious to have copies of the magazine and the extensive article you so kindly published. The Government requests such things, but fails to furnish a means of remuneration, and I am wondering if you publish sufficient copies, to contribute two additional ones to this office in order that we may comply with the requests.

Again assuring you of our appreciation for the support given, I remain

Very truly yours,

DR. ARTHUR HIERONYMUS,
State Supervisor.

208 Builders Exchange Building,
Hobart and Webster Streets, Oakland.
(Note.—Copies were sent.)

Concerning donation to Barlow Medical Library.

December 20, 1935.

Dear Doctor Warnshuis:

The check received from the California Medical Association for \$129.50 as an additional gift to the library is much appreciated, and the organization desires me to express thanks for this additional gift.

The gift of the California Medical Association has enabled us to add many books to the library that would not have been possible otherwise, and, we trust, has enabled us to be of greater use to the members of the State Association as well as our own county members.

Yours, with many good wishes.

MRS. MARY E. IRISH, *Librarian.*

Concerning donation to Lane Library.

STANFORD UNIVERSITY
Office of the President

December 20, 1935.

My dear Doctor Warnshuis:

May I through you thank the members of the California Medical Association on behalf of the University for the recent check for \$129.50 to be credited to the Lane Library Book Fund.

With much appreciation and all good wishes, I am,

Faithfully yours,

RAY LYMAN WILBUR, *President.*

LANE MEDICAL LIBRARY
Sacramento Street at Webster
San Francisco, California

December 19, 1935.

My dear Doctor Warnshuis:

I was so pleased to receive your check of \$129.50. The generous gifts from the California Medical Association have been such a help during this period of curtailed income, and I assure you that we are most appreciative of the assistance. Please accept the thanks of the library staff, and our cordial holiday greetings.

Very truly yours,

LOUISE OPHULS, *Medical Librarian.*